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Introductory lecture to a course of lectures on the theory & practice of Physic. delivered in the College of Philad.a before the Students & Trustees of the College Novem.r 2.nd 1789. –

by

Benj.n Rush

Gentlemen/

It would be unpardonable to enter upon the Chair of the late Professor of the Theory & practice of Physic, without paying a ~~humble~~ tribute of respect to his memory. —

~~The~~ Dr John Morgan whose place I have been called upon to fill, was born in the city of Philad.a — He discovered in early life a ~~taste for~~ propensity for learning, & an uncommon application to books. — He acquired the rudiments of his classical and ~~his academical~~ learning at the Revd Dr Finley's Academy in Nottingham, & finished his studies in this College under the present Provost, and the late Revd Dr Ellison. In both these Seminaries he acquired the ~~confidence~~ esteem ~~and regard of his preceptors~~

& affection of his preceptors, ~~by his diligence~~ by his uncommon diligence & ~~proper conduct, & rapid~~ proficiency in his studies. ~~in his studies, and by his respectful~~ He ~~was~~ always ~~acquired knowledge of every kind with equal facility, & had learned largely in the~~ ~~class of worthies that also was~~ In the year 1757 he was admitted to the first literary honors that ~~was~~ were conferred by the College of Philadelphia.

During the last years of his attendance upon the College he began the Study of Physic under Dr Jno Redman of this city. His conduct as an apprentice was such, as gained ~~His conduct as an apprentice was such~~ him the esteem & confidence of his preceptor, & the affections ~~as gained him the esteem of his master &~~ of all his patients. ~~He~~ ~~the affections of all his patients.~~ He was ~~modest - industrious, & faithful as an~~ ~~apprentice, and won the hearts of the sick by his affectionate and respectful~~

~~intercourse with them.~~

After he had finished his ~~op~~ studies under Dr Redman he ~~intercepted of~~ entered into the ~~provinces~~ service of his Country as a Surgeon & Lieutenant ~~of the body of~~ in the provincial ~~a regiment of~~ troops ~~raised by the province~~ of Pennsylvania, in the last ~~the~~ war ~~between the~~ which Britain & America carried on against the French nation. ~~For his capacity of~~ As a Surgeon, in which capacity only he in the Army, ~~ought~~ was required both knowledge & ~~fame~~ reputation. - He ~~acquired the confidence of the first~~ was respected by the officers & ~~the love of all~~ beloved by the Soldiers ~~of~~ the Army, & so great was his diligence & humanity in attending the sick & wounded who were the Subjects of his care, that I well remember to have heard it said "that if it were possible for

any man to merit heaven by his good works, Dr Morgan would be deserve it for his faithful attendance upon his patients." –

In the year 1760 He left the army, and sailed for Europe with a view of prosecuting his studies in medicine. He attended the lectures & dissections of the late celebrated Dr Wm Hunter, and afterwards spent two years in attending the Lectures of the professors in Edin.r – Here both the Monroes Cullen – Rutherford – Whyt & Hope were his masters, with each of whom he lived in the most familiar intercourse & all of whom spoke of him with affection & respect. At the end of two years he published an elaborate dissertation. This is upon

the formation of his, & after publicly defending it, was admitted to the honor of Doctor of Medicine in the University.

From Edin^r he went to ~~to returned to London, and after sometime visited~~ Paris where he spent a winter in attending the anatomical lectures & dissections of Mr Sue. It was here he ~~prepared~~ injected a kidney in so curious & elegant a manner, that it procured his admission into the academy of Surgery in Paris. —

~~& Towards Italy~~ While on the continent of Europe, he visited Holland & Italy. ~~Towards~~ In both these countries he was introduced to the first medical & literary characters. As he spoke the latin & french languages

with ~~perfect~~ uncommon ease & propriety he was enabled by their means to converse with with advantage the distinguished Scholars & philosophers to whom he was introduced. ~~with ad with advantage~~. He ~~spent~~ spent several hours in ~~the society of~~ ~~conversation~~ company with ~~was spent several hours in with~~ Voltaire at Geneva, and he had the honor of a long conference with the celebrated Morgagni at Padua when he was in the 80th year of his age. This venerable physician who was the light & ornament of two or three successive generations of physicians, was so pleased with the Dr: that he claimed kindred with him ~~[illegible]~~ ~~he presented with a copy~~ from the resemblance of their names, and ~~in~~ ~~on~~ on the blank leaf of a copy of his works which he presented to him, he inscribed with his own hand the following

words "affini suo, medico praestantissimo, Johanni Morgan" – Donat Auctor". –

Upon the Doctor's return to London he was elected ~~as~~ a Fellow of the Royal Society. He was likewise admitted ~~to~~ as a licentiate of the College of Physicians in London, & a member of the College of Physicians in Edinburgh. –

It was during his absence from London ~~connected with~~ ~~suggested~~ ~~that~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~with~~ Dr Shippen the plan ~~suggested the idea~~ of establishing a Medical School in this city. –

~~The~~ [~~Too~~ much praise cannot be given to the man who first ~~a~~ ~~broke~~ ~~the~~ ~~prejudices of a~~ ~~young country~~ ~~first~~ risked his reputation & success in his profession a young country ~~young country~~ by introducing into ~~it~~ Anatomical lectures & dissections. The merit of this undertaking is wholly Dr Shippen's, but

The historian who shall hereafter ~~des~~ relate the progress of medical Science in America, will be deficient in candor & justice if he does not con=
=nect the Name of Dr Morgan with that aus=
=picious Aera in which Medicine was first taught & studied as a science in this Country.

The ~~[illegible]~~ returned to Philad.a in the year 1765 loaded with literary ~~fame~~ honors, and ~~He~~ was received with open arms by his fellow citizens.— They felt an ~~obligations to~~ interest in him for having advanced in every part of Europe the honor of the American name.

~~The first years of his~~ Immediately after his arrival, he ~~intered upon~~ was elected professor of the Theory & practice of Physic, in ~~a~~ the ~~cottage of this city~~, ~~[illegible]~~ soon afterwards ~~[illegible]~~ and delivered, at a public commence=
=ment his plan for the ~~establishment of~~ constituting

a medical School ~~in~~ with the College in this city. I

— This discourse ~~had great merit~~ was composed with ~~[illegible]~~ great taste & judgement, & ~~[illegible]~~ contained many of the true principles of liberal medical Science. —

In the year 1769 he had the pleasure of seeing the first fruits of his ~~industry, and~~ labors for the advancement ~~patriotism~~ of medicine. ~~In that year the~~ Five young gentlemen ~~were admitted~~ received in that year from the hands of the present Provost the first honors in medicine that ever were conferred in America. V. The historian.

But the zeal of Dr Morgan was not confined to the advancement of medical science alone. He had an active hand in the establishment of the American Philosophical Society, and he undertook in the

year 1773 a ~~long~~ Voyage to Jamaica ~~on purpose~~ to solicit benefactions for the ~~Colleges~~. ~~This~~ ~~[illegible]~~ advancement ~~of all the branches~~ general ~~[illegible]~~ ~~this combined entitled him to the~~ literature in the College. —

~~[illegible]~~ Thus far we have traced the his-
-tory of the Doctor's life with peculiar pleasure.
And here I would close my account of him, ~~was~~ did
I not think that much useful instruction
might be gained by marking a single in-
-cident in his life which defeated the
~~[illegible]~~ expectations which had been created ~~raised~~
by the Splendor of his character ~~of his usefulness in his profession~~, & thereby ~~[illegible]~~
deprived our Country of the continuance of
~~his~~ the benefits of that public zeal which
had distinguished the early stages of his
life. —

In obedience to the advice of his friend & patron Dr Fothergill of London to undertook to introduce the European mode of practicing physic

The difficulties of combining the duties of an apothecary - a surgeon & a physician have long been a subject of complaints among the liberal votaries of medicine in America.

~~Besides every~~ To the many Objections that have been made to this mode of practice, that of its being unfriendly to the advancement of medicine ~~made~~ may be added as ~~is certainly~~ a principal One. Therefore in obedience to the advice of Dr Fothergill of London Dr Morgan undertook the ~~total enterprise~~ arduous task of separating the professions of the physician, from those of the apothecary & Surgeon, and in imi= =tation of the practice of European physicians

required from his patients a compensation for his services as soon as he had performed them. Unfortunately the prejudices & habits of the people of America had not been suffi=
=ciently weighed in this new & difficult Un=
=dertaking, nor ~~as he~~ was a due atten=
=tion paid to the difference in the ~~condition~~ ~~&~~ circumstances of men & of the Value of money in ~~an~~ an old & a new country. In Europe where proper=
=ty has acquired its ~~[illegible]~~ height, ~~[illegible]~~ and ~~where [illegible]~~ there ~~will~~ is always a quan=
=tity of stagnating money; but in America the opportunities of employing money ~~money is is in perpetual motion~~ to advantage are so numerous that few men think of keeping more in their ~~coffers~~ possession that is sufficient for the ordinary expences of ~~the~~ carrying on

their business, or maintaining their families. — hence arises the difficulty of rewarding a physician for his services as soon as he has performed them even among persons ~~in~~ of the most ample fortunes. From the habits of the people of America, & their inability ~~prejudices, & inability of our country~~ to support the European mode of practising physic Dr Morgan failed in his attempt to introduce it. The influence of a disap=pointment in ~~such~~ an undertaking ~~too~~ would have been painful ~~to~~ ~~sense of Dr Morgan~~ to a man of his sensibility to honor & ~~candor~~ character than Dr. Morgan. It affected him in the most sensible manner, and ~~produced a~~ if ~~in~~ the ~~regarding~~ ~~a~~ ~~and~~ ~~change in his temper & conduct as a citizen~~ ~~in~~ ~~his subsequent life~~, ~~did~~ not accord

with the ~~brightness~~ splendor of ~~the~~ its morning, ~~of his life~~, it must be ascribed to the influence of this disappointment ~~upon his temper & conduct~~.

He possessed an uncommon capacity for acquiring knowledge – His memory was extensive & accurate – He was intimately acquainted with the latin & Greek Classicks, ~~He~~ ~~Often consulted him~~ He ~~had~~ had read ~~to excess~~ much in medicine. In all his pursuits he was persevering & indefatigable. He was capable of friendship, and in his intercourse with his patients discovered the most amiable, and exemplary tenderness. I never ~~heard~~ knew a person who had been attended by him that did not speak of his sympathy ~~& attention~~ with gratitude & respect.

Such was the man who once filled the Chair of the theory & practice of physic in our College. He is now no more: ~~He~~

[The historian who shall hereafter

~~describe~~ ~~record~~ the progress of medical Science in America, will be wanting in candor and justice if he does not connect the name of Dr Morgan with that auspicious ~~Era~~ in which the ~~Science of~~ medicine was first taught & studied as a science ~~transplanted~~ in this country.

~~remains have been consigned without pomp to the grave. To oblivion let us consign the ~~[illegible]~~ all his weaknesses, but let the rest. ~~His [illegible] hopes~~ homage & fears & ~~imperfections~~ his regrains now sleeps ~~with him~~ in the silent grave. But not so ~~his virtues~~ ~~the memory of~~ his useful actions – every act of benevolence which he performed – every public spirited enterprise which he planned, or executed – & every tear of sympathy which he shed, ~~was ~~ ~~[illegible]~~ are faithfully recorded, ~~in heaven~~, & shall be preserved for ever.

Having thus publickly discharged a duty to my predecessor in the Chair of the theory & practice of Physic ~~which I have been called upon to fill~~, I proceed now to say a few words upon those ~~nature of that~~ branches of medicine ~~[illegible]~~ ~~which~~ ~~teach that have been assigned me~~. —

By the Theory of Physic, I understand, the Doctrine of the causes ~~founded upon the history of the symptoms~~ of diseases — By the Practice of Physic, I understand the cure of diseases founded upon an investigation of their causes.

These two are inseparably connected together, & that man ceases to be a physician who attempts to ~~divide~~ separate them. I am ~~well~~ aware that there is a sect of physicians who call themselves Empirics, & who affect to be led by experience ~~alone~~ only, in opposition to those who add reasoning to their observations, & who upon this account are called Dogmatists. This sect of physicians assert, that we know nothing of the causes of diseases, & that experience ~~is~~ should be our only guide in curing them. The theory of diseases is founded upon an accurate knowledge of the structure & functions of the human body. The human body may be considered in y^e^ threefold view of a chemical

mixt —

mixt - an hydraulic machine - & an animated system. When we contemplate it as diversified in this manner, we grant, there are many difficulties in admitting yᵉ dog=matic plan of physic. We know but little of that part of yᵉ functions of the body which depends upon che=mical principles. The mode of aggregation of the simple solids - the change of the food into chyle, & the constituent parts of the blood, have never yet been fully ascertained by the chemists. As an hydraulic machine we know still less of the human body - Ma=thematics here give us no assistance, but, on the con=trary have egregiously misled physiologists in all ages. As an animated system we are still more ignorant of it, ~~to a proverb~~; for who is able to explain all ~~insomuch that to talk of~~ the laws of the nervous system, or the method by which sensations are communicated to the brain? ~~is to subject ourselves to ridicule~~. These things, we admit, militate against yᵉ advocates for dog=matism in physic. But there is a still greater objec=tion to it than any we have mentioned - A dogmatist generally confines himself to one system of physic only. This, like some favourite hypothesis, when once a man has

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has conceived it, assimilates every thing to itself as proper nourishment; & ~~generally grows strong by every thing he sees, hears, reads or understands.~~ Thus ye alchemist finds the philosophers stone clearly discovered in Homer's Iliad, & even in ye old testament; & the mystic divine finds proofs of the trinity, & other mysteries of religion in the fire that warms, in the candle that lights, in the aliment that supports; & in ye very wool & silk that cloathe him. Now it is easy to see, that such a servile compliance with any System of Physic must be dangerous, since no system is perfect. It was from the influence of a single System that Galen ~~long~~ so long reigned ye tyrant of ye schools of physic. ~~It was reckoned a species of impiety to contradict him~~ - Dr. Boerhaave succeeded ~~in some measure~~ by his System to his empire in medicine, especially in ye British dominions. In a word, almost every system of physic which has been broached has in ye end enslaved its votaries.

Let us next call forth Empiricism & examine it in the same manner that we have done Dogmatism. The Empiric pretends to cure all disorders by imitation - But how ~~few~~ few even of the oldest Physicians have met with all the variety in disorders which books describe? I have heard Dr. Hunter, an old practitioner, declare ~~that~~ he every day of his life met

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with new cases even in that simple branch of medicine, mid=
=wifry. Nor will books supply y^e deficiencies of their observa=
=tions. The histories of diseases & remedies (partly upon y^e acc^t. of y^e ambi=
=guity in language, & partly upon y^e acc^t. of y^e love of y^e mar=
=vellous - or a preconcieved bias in favor of a certain hypothesis
or a particular remedy) are seldom to be trusted. Besides,
diseases w^h resemble each other may be much diversified by
y^e difference of season - age - constitution - sex & the like (call
of w^h experience throws out of the question), & this is y^e reason,
why all professed Empirics or quacks have in all ages done
so much mischief. If experience be infallible, then y^e
same medicine will always (cæteris paribus) produce y^e
same effect - i.e. it will operate alike in all ages & in
all countries - tho' administered by ever so many differ=
=ent hands. But let us enquire, is this really y^e case?
Rain-water - lime water - ~~millepedes~~ wood lice - soap - & pine buds were
all extolled as specifics in an hundred disorders a few
years ago; but at present they are fallen into disuse, for
no other reason than because they did not answer the high
character w^h was given of them. The bark in England
is esteemed a powerful antiseptic - D^r. Astruc denies that
ever it had any such effects in France. The sal Seignet
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was reckoned a specific for curing intermittents, while yt. manufactory of it was monopolised by an apothecary at Rochelle, but as soon as the method of making it became generally known it ceased to have any remarkable virtues in that disorder. But further, - How often do we find physicians differ in their acct. of yt. same medicine? - One ascribes ~~a number~~ of virtues to a particular remedy, wh. another says he never saw do any service, & both speak from long & repeated observation.

We need not be surprised at these things, when we consider that all yt. knowledge acquired in this way is lodged in yt. memory, which is a faculty of yt. mind, yt. least forward to serve us. I believe few physicians remember more than yt. two or three last years of their practice. Many-many cures have been performed by medicines which have been thrown out of a window - or into yt. fire.

Let us enquire a little into yt. characters of some of the greatest empirics that have appeared in physic. Hippocrates was yt. first founder of them - hence we find him so often called by his followers, the Coan Oracle - the Father of physic - Even yt. Divine ~~Hippocrates~~ Old man itself [Forgive me, illustrious shade, if I turn apostate from thy worship - I was once an Idolater at thy altar! Nor count it sacrilege

sacrilege, gentlemen, if I venture to pluck a few grey hairs from his hoary head]

The aphorisms of Hippocrates are valued as ye most genuine of his works. many of them I grant are ~~too~~ invariably true & well founded - But I believe I should have ye suffrages ~~opinion~~ of 9 physicians out of ten on my side, if I should say that ye greatest part of them are false, & have no foundation in nature - nor does ye making ye necessary allowance for ye difference of age & climate in which he wrote plead any thing in his favor. His Coan Prognostics are nothing but histories of cases in which he has suffered nature to exert herself without any assistance from art, most of which terminated unsuccessfully. But if we turn our eyes to modern times we shall find empiricism to be a composition of falsehood - absurdity - & impudence. Dr. Dover a noted quack in England proposed curing all disorders ~~with~~ by crude quicksilver. He published ~~to ye world~~ a pompous acct. of ~~his~~ the cures he had performed with it. It was recieved into ye materia medica & administered plentifully in many disorders, but with so little effect - nay with such obvious inconveniences that it ~~was laid aside again in a few years~~ soon fell into ~~disrepute~~ disrepute. The late Dr. Ward was famous for curing fistulas - & obstinate

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cutaneous eruptions of all kinds. After his death his recipes were ~~published to ye world~~ made public. His medicines were prepared as carefully as possible & administered by ye most knowing of ye faculty, but to no purpose. They seldom did any service, & are now justly laid aside, while other preparations of ye same simples much safer & equally efficacious are substituted in their room. — How is it then that quacks run away with the credit of performing so many cures? How is it that even men of sense (for the love of health like the love of gold levels all capacities) become advocates for them, & puff off their medicines? — It is easy to answer these questions. — Among the many patients which come into their hands, they no doubt sometimes stumble upon a medicine which performs a cure. Should a man go blindfold into an apothecaries shop & give the first medicine he laid his hand upon he might do the same. — These cures are highly extolled while the many incurables they have met with, together with the many more whom they have sent out of the world are buried in ~~silence~~ oblivion. The reason of this is plain. The persons or the relations of those who have been the unhappy victims to ~~their~~ their ignorance are ashamed to expose them, inasmuch as

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as they at ye same time expose their credulity, & call their own ~~wisdom & discernment~~ judgements in question. — Hence it has some=times been said very properly that "quacks are ye greatest lyars in ye world, except their patients." If a physici=an with all the advantages of education - long experience - & close observation sometimes falls into mistakes as to ye seat of disorders - or ye best method of curing them (& this is wt all of them allow) what can we expect from men without education, or without a capacity of growing wise by ye ~~longest~~ experience or Observation.

After what we have heard on both sides of the question it will be no difficult matter to determine which we shall prefer ye dogmatical or empirical plan of physic. — The former has all the advantages without any of the disadvantages of ye latter. The dogma=tist may profit equally wth ye empiric from observation & experience. — It has been objected to dogmatism that we have many very false theories in physic — this is true! But I will venture to say that physic abounds much more wth false facts (if I may be allowed ye expression) than with false theories. — But further - Every empiric must allow that

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he sometimes meets wth difficult cases in which his experience fails him - Analogy he has nothing to do wth, for this belongs to yd dogmatist. In these cases let me ask who will stand yd best chance of curing yd disorder, the man who trusting entirely to his memory has neglected yd use of his reason, & knows nothing about yd relations of ideas or facts to one another, or yd physician who has long been in yd habit of exercising his reasoning faculties, & who knows how to take the advantage of yd most remote analogies? Ignorance & presumption are old companions - while wisdom & diffidence always go hand in hand. The empiric never doubts of any thing - the dogmatical if always sceptical - The empiric is confident - The dogmatist only conjectures - In a science so uncertain - so precarious as physic which of yd two is fittest to be trusted? — But in spite of all the empiricks say of yd boasted infallibility of their experience I will venture to say there is not one of them but uses a theory of some kind. Reasoning is so natural to man that he cannot readily lay aside yd habit of it. Dr Sydenham who affected to despise it, is full of it, insomuch that it is hard to tell whether his theories or his practical observations have taken up

most

most room in his works. I once met w.th a physician from one of the West India islands who accused me in talking on some medical subjects of being too theoretical ~~merely~~ only because I used a theory w.ch he did not believe. In the course of our conversation he gave me an acc.t of an hysteria in which (said he) the hysteric matter was thrown upon y.e kidneys & all y.e patients complaints. Hold Sir (said I) you are too theoretical. How do you know y.t hystericks are occasioned by matter? What is the specific nature of this matter? Where is it lodged & w.t is it excites it into action? These questions surprised him, & he did not know till then, that he was a dogmatist in physic. I might insist further upon this subject, ~~longer~~, & prove that y.e greatest quacks in y.e world never prescribe a single medicine without a reason of some sort for it. Some peccant matter is to be destroyed, ~~&~~ some raging acid or alkali is to be obtunded, or some viscid humors are to be thinned in all their prescriptions. In a word as a religion of some sort has been found necessary in all ages to preserve good morals, so theories of some sort have been found equally necessary to preserve a regular mode of practice. —

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In the progress of medicine towards its present state of improvement different theories have been proposed to account for the causes of diseases by different ~~men~~ men. The physicians of the present century are divided between the systems of Dr Stahl - Dr Boerhaave - Dr Cullen - & Dr Brown. In accounting for the diversity of the theories of these authors the following cir=cumstances deserve our attention. —

1 ~~The~~ Dr Stahl lived and wrote in Saxony ~~at a time~~ among a people ~~who~~ of the most simple manners. ~~The dis~~ Their diseases of course were simple, & such as were often cured by the simple operations of nature without the aid of medicine. hence arose Dr Stahl's high opinion of

the vires naturæ medicatrices, and of the existence of an anima medica in the ~~Bai~~ human ~~=nal~~ body. ~~The~~ we shall hereafter shew the weakness of these healing powers in nature in the most simple diseases, & the pernici=ous tendency of them in those artificial diseases which are produced by the customs of civilized life. —

2 Dr Boerhaave lived & wrote in a Coun=try where a moist atmosphere, & an excessive quantity of animal diet produced a immense number of the diseases of the skin. These were supposed to arise from an preternatural or impure state of the blood, and hence Lentor - tenacity - and acrimony

in that fluid were supposed by him to be the proximate causes of all the diseases of the human body. —

3 Dr Cullen lives & has written in a country in which indolence & luxury have let loose a number of ~~pseudiseases~~ new diseases.

These diseases appear to be seated chiefly in the solids, & particularly in the nervous system — hence the system of Dr. Cullen ~~Le~~ is founded upon the discovery of the laxness ~~of~~ & properties of muscular & arterial & nervous fibres which have been unfolded by the phenomena of the present artificial diseases of Great Britain. —

4, Let it not be thought dishonourable to the illustrious names that have been mentioned to add to them, the humble

name of Dr Brown as the author of a Sys-
-tem of physic. "The things which are despised,
& even the things which are not" are some-
-times chosen ~~by divine providence~~ to confound
~~& to bring to nought the~~
~~the mighty~~ pride of science as well as of
religion. ~~To~~ Let us do homage to genius wher-
-ever it is to be found. ~~for~~ It is an emanation
~~of~~ from the Deity, for its business is to discover
the relation of things as they appear to the divine
mind. Dr Brown was ~~educated a weaver~~, bred to an humble mech: employment.
~~After~~ When ~~acquiring the~~ he arrived at the state of man-
-hood he applied himself to classical & mathe-
-matical learning, and afterwards ~~applied~~
~~himself to the studying of~~ studied medicine in the
University of Edinburgh. He was my fellow
student in the years 1766-67 & 68, and I will

remember ~~that~~ ~~not only his diligence in~~
~~often witnessed his industry and~~
to have often ~~to be~~ listened to with ~~equal~~
~~attending lectures, but~~
~~also~~ ~~surprise & delight to a peculiar vil-~~
great pleasure
~~-liancy and~~ ingenuity & brilliancy with to the
which he ~~spoke upon all subjects, so as to~~ could
render even the most common thought
~~& entertaining~~
agreeable in conversation. After attending
the medical lectures, he understood to
think for himself, and ~~the~~ soon afterwards
began to lecture upon the institutes
of medicine & the practice of physic. He
controverted many of Dr Cullen's opinions
and refuted some of them. From an affec-
-tation of originality he chose new words
to express the same ideas, thereby giving
his system the complexion of a new one.

As far as I have been able to discover, I do not find ~~the slyle~~ any great difference between the systems of Dr Cullen & Dr Brown. They both reject the humoral pathology, & they both apply ~~extensively~~ in the most extensive manner the laws of the nervous & the arterial system. Dr Brown differs from Dr Cullen chiefly in increasing the number of diseases from Debility — & of course in the remedies which are proper to remove them. An accident led Dr Brown to embrace the idea of what he calls Asthenic diseases. He was much afflicted with the Atonic Gout, and was frequently relieved by stimulating medi=cines. This led him to suppose that 97 out of 100 diseases arose from debility, &

V One of his universal remedies, ~~will~~ Viz:
Ardent Spirits ~~shall~~ shall meet with our severest
reprobation, & the use of all of them shall be guarded
in such a manner so as to ~~prevent th~~ derive the greatest benefit
from them. —

were to be cured only by ~~the tonic remedies~~ stimulating medicines — the chief of which he supposed to be Opium, Ether - Volatile Alkali - Arg.t Spirits &

From ~~such an~~ the examination which I have been able to give this System I am disposed to believe it amounts to little more that Dr Cullen's System simplified & extended. — It is however entitled to our attention, and will I have no ~~useful~~ doubt ~~prove the~~ lead to ~~foundation of~~ many useful inquiries & ~~further~~ discoveries in medicine. ~~I must be~~

Should it asked which of these Systems of physic that have been mentioned, I shall adopt in the ensuing Course of lectures, I should reply no one ~~neither~~ of them, but a part of them all.

As, in ~~among~~ the different Systems of religion, ~~those~~ truth & error are divided

in ~~nearly equal~~ different proportions, among them all, so I suppose ~~it~~ in physic that ~~no~~ no system is so erroneous that has not some truth in it, & none so true that has not some error blended with it.

As a servile attachment to any One system of religion, often leads to errors both of Opinion & practice, so ~~a~~ an exclusive attachment to any One system of physic leads to errors in opinion, and mischief in the treatment of diseases. —

~~The time will come~~

I consider Dr Cullen as the Columbus of medicine; ~~[I ... of the truth of many of his principles I ~~must~~ not feel the last disposition to relinquish them]~~

I view Dr Brown ~~as~~ in the light of

V I shall only add further upon this subject that — It was by the successful application of Dr Brown's ~~doctrine~~ theory of madness that Dr Willis lately triumphed in the cure of the ~~over the physicians~~ King of Britain ~~after~~ over all the physicians of the Royal Family. ~~It is said the Dr had acquired had been taught the benefit of instruction at~~

In every attempt to establish principles in Medicine, I shall keep a steady eye upon the climate of our country, & upon the present state of society & manners of the ~~people~~ inhabitants of the United States. — These, will make a departure from the opinions & practice of European physicians in some instances absolutely necessary. —

a man who explores & describes a country which has been previously discovered. After the application of his principles to ~~explained~~ the cure of Tetanus — ~~Mania~~ — madness — ~~Mania~~ — Hemoptysis & the pulmonary Consumption which I have given to the world, or taught in my lectures, I cannot be supposed to be unfriendly to his opinions & practice in many diseases. I call them his principles, but ~~some of you~~ it is well known that I had adopted & taught them, ~~in the~~ during ~~University~~ during the late wars & long before I had heard that Dr Brown had broached an original idea in medicine. —

I have learned & unlearned, — believed & disbelieved, ~~so much in~~ so many speculative opinions in medicine, that

V In describing the diseases of the brain, I shall deliver a few observations upon the faculties of the mind, and the reciprocal influence of the body & mind upon each other in diseases. The Science of Metaphysicks is the province of a physician, & it never can be stripped of the remains of the Jargon which it has contracted in the Schools, still physicians become, & thus it is corrected by the a thorough knowledge of the laws of matter & motion as they appear in the human body. —

I confess I feel a great deal of timidity in assenting to any new principles, or in supporting old ones. This diffidence in my own judgement will lead me to be more industrious in collecting & communicating facts, — for facts are the morality of physic. —

In treating upon diseases, I shall aim principally to give an accurate history of their remote - predisposing & occasional causes — — I shall endeavour to distinguish diseases carefully from each other, & shall conclude with the method of Cure. ~~& when I can explain the proximate cause of a disease, I shall attempt it.~~ —

In expressing my diffidence upon the subject of proximate causes, let it not

be supposed that I ~~wish~~ mean to ~~undervalue~~ decline the theory of ~~theory~~ diseases in a course of lectures upon the practice of physic. ~~Far~~ ~~Theories are not only~~ from it. ~~In vain shall we consider medicine~~ ~~as advancing towards perfection~~ while ~~until~~ ~~we are unable to explain the cause of~~ ~~every disease.~~ ~~Theory is useful as it leads to~~ ~~observation~~ In general, ~~it is a good practice~~ theories should arise out of facts, even ~~if to establish~~ but in some instances preconceived theories lead to the discovery & selection of facts. ~~Let us not~~ Sir Isaac Newton preconceived his sublime system of philos:=phy before he demonstrated it by facts & experiments. ~~Either what was laid formerly~~ I repeat again therefore that ~~Theory~~ principles are natural to the mind of man; & a physician who renounces theory

renounces at the same time human reason. A man can as well cease to think, as cease to arrange facts under general principles. — If Dr. Sydenham reasoned upon diseases, what physician will attempt to describe or cure a disease without it? —

In looking for perfection in Medicine, it is necessary that we should wait for perfection in other branches of Science. Truth is an Unit, and all ~~the~~ its numerous ~~&~~ ~~fractions~~ particles must be collected together before we shall be able to behold any One of them in a perfect state. ~~of perfection~~ — This idea should enlarge the views

~~Inquiries~~ of a physician & lead him to embrace the whole circle of the Sciences in his inquiries. It furnishes ~~him~~ a teacher of medicine at the same time with an apology for the difficulty or impossibility of explaining the proximate causes of many diseases. —

~~While I in delivering the theories of diseases~~ ~~Monsieur you must from any knowledge of this principles of medicine~~ I thus publicly pledge myself never ~~to~~ to attempt to teach you any thing that I do not believe or understand. I will go further — I promise that ~~if I have~~ if I should unfortunately be led to communicate an opinion to you that subsequent observations or reflexion should discover to be unsound,

I will publicly retract it, for I consider truth only, to be knowledge, & that an attempt to defend an error, is only labouring to be more ignorant. —

Nor should I be deterred by the fear of falling into mistakes from venturing to deliver conjectures, where demonstration cannot be obtained. — ~~There can be any~~ ~~Fontenelle~~ Should these conjectures be erroneous they will notwithstanding serve the cause of truth — for I believe with Mr. Fontenelle that the number of false opinions upon all subjects is limited. Every useful conjecture therefore removes a part of the rubbish which obstructs the avenue to truth, and thereby contributes to the success of future inquiries. — As moral Good is

known to mortals only thro' the medium of moral evil, so perhaps truth can be discovered only by them thro' the medium of ~~evil~~. error.

To encourage us to diligent enterprize in ~~and~~ investigating the causes & cures of diseases, let us recollect ~~the~~ how many of them are now subject to our Art which a few years ago eluded the power of Medicine. ~~The~~ The & the Small pox ~~has~~ have in a intermitting fever - ~~the hooping cough & the~~ great degree ceased to be mortal; ~~diseases~~ disorders. The last of these, ~~disorders~~ according to Dr Wharton used to carry off ~~1/10~~ 1/10: part of the human race before the discovery of inoculation. In the ~~so~~ Firth of the Forth near Edinr: there is to be seen from the town of Leith a small island ~~to~~ on which persons infected with the venereal disease were ~~banished on one~~ doomed to perish as incurable in a state of exile from their friends & Society. That disgraceful

But medicine has done more than this; by the modern institution of humane Societies it has encroached upon the territories of death: near thirteen hundred persons apparently dead have been restored to life, by the humane Society of London alone in the course of the last 13 years.

disorder has long ago ceased to be the reproach of medicine, and for the honor of the present ~~day~~ age the persons ~~infected~~ infected with it are cured ~~in~~ without a violation of the ~~rights~~ Duties of humanity. ~~The diseases~~ many other diseases might be mentioned, which have ceased to be incurable; and of those which we are as yet unable to cure, there is scarcely one, which medicine is not able to palliate, and thereby to smooth the avenues of death. —

The republican forms of government ~~of~~ the United States are favorable to boldness & freedom of inquiry. ~~These~~ medicine in common with many ~~other~~ Arts & Sciences has ~~felt~~ felt the effects of it.

The ~~use of mercury~~ successful treatment of the different species of the Ulcerous Sore Throat by means of mercury was discovered in America. I will recollect the time when the very name of the Cynanche trachealis or

It might afford us some instruction to inquire into the causes which have contributed to the rapid advancement of Medicine within the last 30 years. A principal one I believe to be is the disuse of the Latin language as a vehicle of the public lectures in the Univer-sities of Scotland, & the present prevailing fashion of publishing all medical books (except the inaugural dissert.ns) in the English language. Even these are now frequently translated by their authors to introduce them into general notice. ~~to public attention~~. By this new & rational mode of communicating medical knowledge, ~~in medicine~~ it has attracted the notice & excited the in-quiries & observing of ingenious men in all professions, and thereby a kind of galaxy has been created in the hemisphere of Medicine. — Our Science has moreover by opening

the disease ~~known by the vulgar name of~~ commonly called the Hives ~~excited perhaps~~ could never be heard by the ~~father or mother~~ parents ~~without pain it was~~ of young children without a painful emotion — so ~~far as~~ ~~manifest in the presence of the~~ great was its fatality; But it is now seldom mortal. Even the Cholera Infantum which formerly carried off in the summer months nearly half the Children that were born in our city, has been checked in its mortality by the influence of ~~country~~ exercise — generous diet, & country air. — It is impossible to mention these facts, without ~~anticipating~~ entertaining a hope that such changes are about to take place in the moral & political state of our Country as will render it a more safe & agreeable Abode ~~for the children~~ to man, for ~~children~~ the extraordinary mortality of Children seems to have arisen from the operation of that Good==ness which delivers from evils to come. ✓

an english dress been prepared to associate more easily with other Sciences, ~~which have long ago been delivered from~~ ~~laid aside their Roman garment~~ ~~trading with~~ ~~and~~ from each ~~all~~ of which it has received assis=tance & support. It is with singular satisfac=tion that I am able to add in this place, that medicine has escaped from the Bastile of the latin language in the University of Cambridge in the State of Massachusets. In spite contempt of the last vestige of ~~the barba=rous~~ barbarism ~~ages~~ 14th ~~century~~, which remains in the ~~Scotch~~ Universities of Scotland, they have lately honoured ~~two~~ the authors of two english inaugural dissertations ~~was~~ with degrees in medicine.

In contemplating the ~~exploits~~ progress of medicine in the world, & ~~the~~ in particular in the United States, I am naturally led to take notice of the benefits that are to be expected from the medical institutions in the city. The College of physicians - the hospital - & the Dispensary are all ~~an~~ nurseries of medicine. ~~Bart~~ But this is not all - the fathers ~~& founders~~ of the medical School of Philadelphia have come forward & taken their beloved offspring under ~~the~~ their protection. - ~~To the~~ ~~Two~~ Three of the Sons of the College respectable for their ~~characters~~ abilities & knowledge have been ~~elected to fill the~~ called upon by them to assist in ~~the~~ extending the empire of science & humanity in America. -

~~- For the appointment to which I have this day devoted myself I beg, Gentlemen, you would please to accept~~

They moreover promise much aid to the agriculture - manufactures & commerce of our country. - ~~The~~ The celebrated Linnaeus laid Sweden under such great obligations to him by the application of his discoveries in natural history & botany to those important objects, that he was lamented when he died & in a ~~short~~ eulogium delivered by the King of Sweden from his throne.

~~From the~~ ~~Science medical science will descend in~~ ~~with honor & safety to posterity when we~~ after ~~shall have paid our last debts to natural~~ we society &

~~To the~~ By the establishment of a professorship of Natural history & Botany in our College, much benefit will arise to medicine, for ~~they~~ those important branches of knowledge ~~is~~ are the first links of the great chain which connects Materia-medica - Chemistry - & the practice of physic ~~of~~ together. — From the talents of the gentlemen who have been ~~called~~ this day honored with Chairs in the College ~~upon to assist in monitoring at the altar of Science in our College~~ we hope medicine will descend with Safety & honor to posterity after those of us who are

advancing in life have paid ~~the~~ ~~the~~ our last debts to nature & society. —

Qest.n I shall begin my course by deli=
=vering a few ~~preparatory~~ preliminary lectures upon
the animal Oeconomy.
~~physiology & pathology~~. Dr Cullen's ~~Synop=~~
nosologia methodica
~~is~~ shall continue to be ~~my~~ the textbook
of my lectures on the theory & practice of physic.
during the last summer ~~short course of~~ a few
Having prepared ~~a~~ ~~few~~ lectures
upon the application of the principles
of philosophy - chemistry - medicine &
Oeconomy to domestic & culinary pur=
=poses, I shall connect them with the
~~the lectures~~ some part of the lectures
upon the cure of diseases. The subjects
of these lectures are important
in the highest degree, and could they

be handled as they deserve to be, they would become one of the most useful parts of a physician's & a gentleman's edu=cation. — ~~The duty of~~ Science will ~~reveal all its blessings~~ reveal communicate all its blessings ~~till~~ to the world ~~mankind~~ till "it is brought home (~~to use the words of~~ to use the words of Lord ~~Lord Bacon~~ Bacon) to the bosoms ~~of~~ and business of mankind". many of the Subjects that will be discussed in ~~those~~ these domestic & culinary lectures are intimately connected with the preser=vation of health, and all of them lead to the philosophical enjoyment of the comforts & pleasures of life.

∴ Dr Shippen's & Dr Smith's Lectures — Dry rot. —